

NATIONAL RESEARCH COUNCIL
ASSEMBLY OF BEHAVIORAL AND SOCIAL SCIENCES

2101 Constitution Avenue, N.W., Washington, D. C. 20418

COMMITTEE ON
RISK AND DECISION MAKING

(202) 389-6853

April 17, 1980

Dr. Maxine Singer, Chief
Nucleic Acid Enzymology Section
Division of Cancer Biology and
Diagnosis/National Cancer Institute
Bldg. 37, Room 4A01
National Institutes of Health
Bethesda, Maryland 20206

Dear Dr. Singer:

The newly formed National Academy of Sciences' Committee on Risk and Decision Making (CORADM) has been given a broad mandate to consider how our society and its various institutions might better assess, compare, and manage health, safety and environmental risks. This is a large and open-ended task and we would welcome advice and suggestions from you. (A short description of this project is enclosed.)

If you have been involved in any research, policy analysis, or decision making about health, safety, and environmental risks that you think should be of interest to our committee, it would be most helpful to us if you would send us some material to ponder.

In addition, we would appreciate hearing from you about:

- what your major concerns are and what you think the most important problems are in this general area,
- what kinds of strategies you would suggest to improve the quality of health, safety, and environmental decision making, including changes in institutional structures or decision processes,
- what specific process and policy recommendations you would like the committee to consider,
- what research topics should be funded including specific research suggestions for the National Science Foundation's Technology Assessment and Risk Analysis Program.

Dr. Maxine Singer

April 17, 1980

Please write and send all material to:

Mr. John D. Graham, Staff Associate
CORADM, JH-818
National Academy of Sciences
2101 Constitution Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20418

We hope that the committee will be able to make a constructive contribution in gaining perspective, ordering priorities, and suggesting directions for research and decision making about the swarm of risks we face. To do our job well, we need the best assistance and advice we can get. I hope that you will be willing to help us.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Howard Raiffa". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Howard Raiffa
Chairman

HR/yc
Enclosure